



First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) Weekly Update to the State Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – October 27, 2014

FirstNet News

- The deadline to respond to both the [Request for Information \(RFI\)](#) and the [Public Notice](#) closes today, October 27.
- FirstNet participated on a panel at the Canadian Interoperability Technology Interest Group (CITIG) Workshop on October 22. Canada is in the beginning stages of preparing for a public safety broadband network, so the workshop was a great opportunity for FirstNet to provide best practices and lessons learned to their public safety community. In addition, representatives from bordering U.S. states attended the event and provided their local perspectives on FirstNet's plans to deploy a nationwide public safety broadband network.
- To date, FirstNet has received completed state consultation checklists from 29 states and territories: Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Guam, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Utah, Washington, Washington DC, Wisconsin, Wyoming.
- The next consultation meetings will be October 29 in Montana; November 6 in Utah; November 18 in Iowa; and December 12 in Florida.
- The SLIGP Team recently released two best practices documents regarding outreach and education and governance, available on the NTIA website: [Recommendations for SLIGP Recipient Outreach and Education for Public Safety Broadband](#) and [Recommendations for SLIGP Recipient Governance for Public Safety Broadband](#).

From the States and PSAC Organizations

- FirstNet presented the latest updates to approximately 80 stakeholders at the Kansas National Public Safety Broadband Network Conference and 230 stakeholders at the third annual Wyoming Broadband Summit on October 21. Additional information about the events, including links to the event websites, is

available at <http://firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog/road-kansas-and-wyoming-broadband-conferences>.

- The annual International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) conference and Major Cities Chiefs fall meeting started late last week; FirstNet Board member Chief Burbank and Acting General Manager TJ Kennedy, along with FirstNet staff, presented to iCERT and provided briefings and addressed questions at many IACP committee meetings. Staff will be in attendance at the event meeting with stakeholders through Tuesday. In total FirstNet is participating in 33 events, with 15 formal speaking engagements.
- This week FirstNet is presenting at the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) 71st Annual Convention and Market Place, the Texas A&M Workshop and Live Exercise Observation, and the Virginia APCO/NENA/Interoperability Conference.

Media Watch

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Traditional Media

There were several stories about first responder communications and FirstNet this week, but no consistent theme among the stories.

Urgent Communications: Partnerships are much more than contracts—an important distinction for FirstNet (10/23/2014)

The FirstNet board of directors understands completely what public/private partnerships will entail for FirstNet, and I know FirstNet management gets it, too. These individuals have all been involved in the real world of public safety or telecommunications for a long time. Unfortunately, it appears to me that those within the federal government who really run FirstNet don't have a clue about the difference between a contract and a partnership. <http://urgentcomm.com/blog/partnerships-are-much-more-contracts-important-distinction-firstnet>

Emergency Management: FirstNet: When Headlines Go Sideways (10/22/2014)

The Federal FirstNet team is being put in place and flushed out with staff. The coordination process is just starting with the states and territories. To date there have only been a handful of what they call initial FirstNet consultations. Washington state had its last week with around 175 people in attendance (highest number of attendees to date). This included a broad representation of all the first responder agencies -- and everyone was invited to attend.

<http://www.emergencymgmt.com/emergency-blogs/disaster-zone/firstnetwhenheadlinesgosideways.html>

An interview with FirstNet Acting General Manager TJ Kennedy will be featured on *The Business of Government Hour*, a platform for government executives to discuss their careers, their agencies, agency accomplishments, as well as their vision of government in the 21st century. The interview will be broadcast today at 11:00 am EST and Wednesday, October 29 at noon EST Federal News Radio 1500AM WFED, federalnewsradio.com. Those outside of the Washington, D.C. area, can listen to the live stream on Federal News Radio 1500AM WFED. For those who miss the airings, the interview will be available through:

- **[The Business of Government Hour Site](#):** To listen to the show on your computer, click on an audio segment from the [Radio Show](#) section of the Center's web site to launch it. To download the show as a podcast on your computer or mobile player, right click on an audio segment, select Save Target As, and save the file accordingly.
- **[@ iTunes](#):** Subscribe to [The Business of Government Hour podcast](#) on iTunes for free to get all insightful, in-depth conversations with government leaders who are changing the way government does business.

Social Media

FirstNet continued to promote the RFI and Public Notice using social media to increase public safety awareness and involvement. We also saw significant engagement during the various stakeholder events that the outreach team participated in last week. The FirstNet Twitter account now has more than 1,080 followers, and the LinkedIn account has more than 280 followers. Our blog posts from this week can be found at: <http://www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog>